

ORDINANCE NO.

AN ORDINANCE ORDERING AN ELECTION TO BE HELD IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN ON NOVEMBER 6, 2012, FOR THE PURPOSE OF SUBMITTING A PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT TO THE VOTERS.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

PART 1. A charter amendment election shall be held in the City on November 6, 2012 at which the ballot shall be prepared to permit voting “yes” or “no” on the following proposition:

Proposition ---

Shall the city charter be amended to move the City’s general election date from May to November, to provide that council members serve four-year staggered terms, and to provide that council elections occur in even-numbered years?

PART 2. If Proposition --- is approved by the majority of voters voting at the election, Article III, § 2 of the Charter is amended to read as follows:

§ 2 ELECTION DATE; COUNCIL TERMS; ELECTION BY MAJORITY AND RUN-OFF ELECTIONS.

(A) The City’s general elections [~~regular election of the Mayor and councilmembers~~] shall be held on the November [May] uniform election date authorized by state law in even-numbered years. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Charter, the regular term of the mayor and council members is four years. Council terms shall be staggered so that a general election is held every two years, and half or as near to half as is practical, of the council is elected at each election.

(1) If this Charter does not otherwise provide for a transition from three-year terms to four-year terms, or for staggering the terms of council members, the council shall so provide by ordinance. The ordinance may provide for drawing lots or temporarily lengthening or shortening terms to accomplish its purpose. When this paragraph has served its purpose, it expires, and need not be reprinted in future versions of the Charter.

(B) At every regular election and at every special election called to fill one or more vacant places on the council, election to each place on the council shall be by a majority of all the votes cast for such place at such election. In every such

1 election each qualified voter shall vote for not more than one candidate for
2 each council place to be filled. Where in an election to a place on the council,
3 no candidate receives a majority of all the votes cast for such place at such
4 election, the council shall, immediately upon declaring the official results of
5 the election, issue a call for a run-off election for every place to which no one
6 was elected. Such run-off election shall be held in accordance with state law
7 and the two [(2)] candidates who received in the preceding election the highest
8 number of votes for each place to which no one was elected shall be voted on
9 again, and the candidate who receives the majority of the votes cast for each
10 such place in the run-off election shall be elected to such place.

11 **PART 3.** This ordinance takes effect on -----, 2012.

12 **PASSED AND APPROVED**

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14 §
15 §
16 _____, 2012 § _____
17 Lee Leffingwell
18 Mayor

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21 **APPROVED:** _____
22 Karen Kennard
23 City Attorney

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26 **ATTEST:** _____
27 Shirley A. Gentry
28 City Clerk

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